



Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

THE CENTRAL DIVISION MEETING.

The fifteenth annual meeting of the Central Division of the Modern Language Association of America was held at the State University of Iowa, Iowa City, Iowa, December 28, 29, and 30, 1909.

Professor Arthur Graves Canfield, Chairman of the Division, presided at all the sessions except at the first part of the opening session, when Professor William Herbert Carruth presided. Chairman Canfield's arrival had been delayed by heavy storms.

FIRST SESSION, TUESDAY, DECEMBER 28, 2 p. m.

The first session was opened by an address of welcome by President George Edwin McLean, of the State University of Iowa.

The Chairman announced the following committees:

(1) To nominate officers: Professors T. A. Jenkins, E. P. Morton, M. B. Evans, J. W. Beach, W. H. Chenery.

(2) To recommend a place for the next annual meeting: Professors W. H. Carruth, E. P. Baillot, S. H. Bush, H. B. Lathrop, N. C. Brooks.

Reading and discussion of papers:

1. "Hawthorne's *Immitigable*." By Professor John Phelps Fruit, of William Jewell College.

[The reiterated *immitigable* is the key to the informing sense of Hawthorne's thought. It comes mainly from his early interest

in Rousseau, *The Newgate Calendar*, and Bunyan. To Bunyan is due his bent to allegory, whence issued his prose form of literary art, the Romance.—*Fifteen minutes.*]

2. "A Detail in the Legend of Ogier le Danois." By Dr. Barry Cerf, of the University of Wisconsin. [See *The Romanic Review*, I, 1.]

[The relation of Ogier to the Abbey of Meaux has been studied in Bédier, *Les Légendes épiques*, II, pp. 281 ff. In this paper the effort was made to find the origin of Ogier's connection with the Abbey of Meaux in the confusion of the epic hero with a certain Rogier, the story of whose conversion is published in Mabillon, *Acta Sanctorum*, saec. II, pars I, p. 627 (Venice edition).—*Fifteen minutes.*]

This paper was discust by Professor H. A. Smith.

3. "Fischart and the Volkslied." By Dr. Charles Allyn Williams, of the University of Illinois.

[A brief outline of Fischart's interest in secular song; the extent to which he made use of it in quotations and allusions in his works.—*Ten minutes.*]

4. "George Meredith as the Comic Muse." By Professor Joseph Warren Beach, of the University of Minnesota.

[An essay to define Meredith's conception of comedy and to illustrate it from his own novels.—*Fifteen minutes.*]

This paper was discust by Professor H. B. Lathrop.

Tuesday afternoon, from four to five, tea was served to the members of the Central Division and their friends at the rooms of the Triangle Club.

SECOND SESSION, TUESDAY, DECEMBER 28, 8 p. m.

Address of the Chairman of the Central Division, Professor Arthur Graves Canfield, of the University of Michigan, on "Coeducation and Literature."

Immediately after this address President and Mrs. MacLean received the members of the Central Division and their guests at the President's House.

THIRD SESSION, WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 29, 9.30 a. m.

Reading and discussion of papers:

5. "The Future Place and Scope of Modern Language Instruction in our Technical Schools." By Professor Herman Babson, of Purdue University.

[Present lack of conformity in technical schools regarding the amount and purpose of language instruction incites criticism of its efficacy both from a practical and a cultural view-point. More outspoken emphasis, by teachers of technical branches, on the value of modern languages, more time for higher grade work, and livelier enthusiasm in teaching will aid in obviating existing faults.—*Fifteen minutes.*]

This paper was discussed by Professors J. T. Hatfield, L. Fossler, S. W. Cutting, H. A. Smith, D. H. Carnahan, A. B. Noble, C. B. Wilson, Miss Igerna M. Getz, and the author.

After the discussion, on motion of Professor J. T. Hatfield, the following resolution was adopted: *Resolved*, That it is the sense of this meeting that there is need of a comprehensive adjustment of the teaching of modern languages in technical schools and technical departments of other institutions.

6. "The Novel in the French Literature of Louisiana." By Mr. Edward J. Fortier, of the University of Illinois.

[The beginnings of the novel. A study of the French influence upon it. The histories of Louisiana and the part they played in the development of the novel. Local color and influence of the *milieu*. The great epoch from 1830 to 1850 and the reasons for it.—*Fifteen minutes*.]

7. "The Pathetic as a Dramatic Element." By Professor Stephen Hayes Bush, of the State University of Iowa.

[An attempt to find a definition of the pathetic, particularly as opposed to the strictly tragic, and a summary consideration of its dramatic force.—*Ten minutes*.]

This paper was discust by Professors J. W. Beach, J. T. Hatfield, H. A. Smith, and Miss J. Carpenter.

8. "Notes upon the Various Impressions of the Faust Fragment of 1790." By Professor James Taft Hatfield, of the Northwestern University.

[Recent discovery of a copy of the exceedingly rare first separate edition of the Faust fragment. Comparison with the texts in Goethe's *Works* (1790), and discussion of the conclusions reacht by Seuffert, Holland, and Erich Schmidt.—*Twelve minutes*.]

This paper was discust by Professor S. W. Cutting and the author.

9. "Translations into English from Greek and Latin (to Boethius and Vincent of Lerins) from Caxton to Chapman: 1477-1620." By Professor Henry Burrows Lathrop, of the University of Wicosnsin.

[A list of the translations into English from Greek and Latin between Caxton and Chapman illustrates the practical ends with

which Greek and Latin learning was pursued. Imaginative works are mainly those famous in the Middle Ages. Biographical details as to some translators supplementary to the Dictionary of National Biography were presented.—*Twenty minutes.*]

10. "The Imagination of Heinrich von Kleist, and Some Psychological Problems Involved in his Characters." By Dr. Fred Cole Hicks, of the University of Wisconsin.

[Kleist's peculiar endowment in the way of legitimate powers had a large bearing upon the question of his personality and determined the artistic trend of his thought. In considering his attitude toward nature and toward art it must be remembered that he had something of the spirit and the creative imagination of the artist. The clearness and vividness of his fancy, far beyond his powers of execution often, were such at times as to make very existence for him a tragedy. The same psychological problems reappear in his characters, many of whom are literally dominated by an idea and find their tragic fate in their allegiance to it.—*Fifteen minutes.*]

At half-past twelve on Wednesday, December 29, the members of the Central Division were entertained at luncheon at the Burkley Imperial Hotel.

FOURTH SESSION, WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 29, 2.30 p. m.

This session was devoted to three departmental meetings, representing English, Germanic, and Romance languages and literatures. Subjects of importance to the advancement of instruction were discuss.

ENGLISH.

Chairman—Professor Edward P. Morton, of Indiana University.

1. The question for discussion was: In undergraduate courses in the history of English literature, how much

attention can be given, or should be given, to the institutional, political, or historical conditions under which the literature was produced?

The discussion was opened by the chairman of the section and was continued by Professors H. B. Lathrop, G. E. MacLean, J. W. Beach, J. M. Clapp, F. G. Hubbard, E. M. Hopkins, J. P. Fruit, C. F. Ansley, A. B. Noble, and others.

On motion a committee of five was appointed "To ascertain and report at the next meeting of this section the conditions of English composition teaching with especial reference to the amount of written work necessarily required, the proper disposal of it, and the necessary equipment." Committee: Professors E. M. Hopkins, F. G. Hubbard, A. B. Noble, J. M. Thomas, H. G. Paul.

GERMANIC LANGUAGES.

Chairman—Professor Laurence Fossler, of the University of Nebraska.

1. "Elementary German in our Colleges." By Professor Hermann Almstedt, of the University of Missouri.

In the absence of the author this paper was read by Professor W. H. Carruth, and it was discussed by Professors J. T. Hatfield, H. Babson, M. B. Evans, J. B. Knoepfler, S. W. Cutting, L. Fossler, Dr. Josef Wiehr, and the reader.

On motion of Professor Cutting it was voted that a committee of three be appointed by the chairman of the Germanic section of the Central Division "To coöperate with a similar committee of the Romance section to con-

sider the question of revising the Report of the Committee of Twelve." Committee: Professors H. Almstedt, M. B. Evans, B. J. Vos.

2. "Modern Language Teaching in the Frankfurt Musterschule." By Professor M. Blakemore Evans, of the University of Wisconsin. [See *Monatshefte für deutsche Sprache und Pädagogik*, XI, No. 3.]

This paper was discussed by Professors L. Fossler, S. W. Cutting, W. H. Carruth, and the author.

3. "The Prussian-American Exchange of Teachers." By Professor J. A. Campbell, of the University of Kansas, American exchange teacher, 1909, at the Sachsenhauser Oberrealschule in Frankfurt am Main. [See *Monatshefte für deutsche Sprache und Pädagogik*, XI, pp. 138 ff.]

This paper was discussed by Professors H. Babson, M. B. Evans, L. Fossler, J. T. Hatfield, Dr. F. A. Braun, Dr. E. Feise.

ROMANCE LANGUAGES.

Chairman—Professor Hugh Allison Smith, of the University of Wisconsin.

1. Report of the committee on "the possibility of issuing a leaflet of general advice to graduate students in the Romance languages as to residence at American and European universities," in accordance with action taken at the meeting of the Romance section in 1908.

In the absence of the chairman, Professor H. P. Thieme, Professor F. O. Reed reported in the negative

for the committee. The matter was discussed by Professors E. P. Baillot, H. Le Daum, and others. On motion of Professor A. G. Canfield, seconded by Professor D. H. Carnahan, the report was adopted and the committee was discharged.

2. "French in the Secondary Schools of the Middle West." By Professor Albert Frederick Kuersteiner, of Indiana University.

This paper was discussed by Professors H. A. Smith, A. G. Canfield, E. P. Baillot, T. A. Jenkins, W. H. Chenery, H. Le Daum, and others, with special reference to their particular territories. The discussion brought out the preponderance of German over French in the Middle West.

3. "Practical Use of Phonetics in Teaching French in American Colleges and Universities." By Dr. Barry Cerf, of the University of Wisconsin.

This paper was discussed by Professors F. O. Reed, A. F. Kuersteiner, S. H. Bush, H. Le Daum, E. P. Baillot, and others.

In accordance with action taken by the Germanic section a committee of three was appointed from the Romance section "To cooperate with a similar committee of the Germanic section to consider the question of revising the Report of the Committee of Twelve." Committee: Professors T. A. Jenkins, Lucy M. Gay, E. E. Brandon.

At eight o'clock on the evening of Wednesday, December 29, the gentlemen of the Central Division were entertained at the rooms of the Triangle Club. Dean William Craig Wilcox gave an informal talk.

The ladies in attendance at the meeting of the Central Division were entertained on the same evening, from eight to ten, at the home of Professor and Mrs. Charles Bundy Wilson, No. 323 North Capitol Street.

FIFTH SESSION, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 30, 9.30 a. m.

The committee appointed to nominate officers presented the following nominations:

For Chairman: Laurence Fossler, University of Nebraska.

For Executive Committee: John Livingston Lowes, Washington University; Alexander R. Hohlfeld, University of Wisconsin; William Albert Nitze, University of Chicago.

These gentlemen were unanimously elected for one year. Secretary Charles Bundy Wilson, State University of Iowa, holds over, having been reëlected in 1908 for a term of four years, 1909-1912.

The committee on place of meeting reported in favor of accepting the invitation of Washington University to hold the next annual meeting of the Central Division at St. Louis. The report was unanimously adopted.

The same committee recommended that the executive committee confer with the central divisions of the Classical Association, the Philosophical Association, the Mathematical Society, and other associations in the territory holding regular annual meetings, with a view to holding the sessions at a common time and place, if possible, to be another than the Christmas holidays. This recommendation was adopted.

Professor F. G. Hubbard read the following report for the committee on the republication of early texts:

In view of the excellent photographic reproductions now being issued commercially in Europe, the Committee has not thought it advisable during the past year to attempt to stimulate reproduction or publication in America beyond giving information as to where single copies of texts could be obtained by the rotograph process. It is urged that where such single copies are obtained, they should be placed after use in university libraries, so as to be available for other students, and it is respectfully suggested that university libraries might well assist graduate students in the acquisition of rotographs of texts needed for research, on condition that the reproductions became ultimately the property of the library assisting in the purchase. Information as to where rotographs of texts in European libraries may be obtained will be gladly afforded, for the Continent by Professor H. A. Todd, Columbia University, for Great Britain and Ireland, by the Chairman of the Committee.

The A. L. A. Publishing Board issued in March last the first set of index cards for photographic reprints of modern language texts before 1660 contained in American college libraries—eighty-six titles, two cards each, at a total cost of \$2.58. Cards for recent additions are being prepared, and in view of the slight expense involved, it is hoped that the list of subscribing libraries may be increased. The present subscribers are: Amherst, Bryn Mawr, Brown, California, Chicago, Cincinnati, Columbia, Cornell, Harvard, Illinois, Leland Stanford, McGill, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Northwestern, Oberlin, Texas, Tufts, Vassar, Wesleyan, Western Reserve, Wisconsin, Yale, Academy of the New Church Library, Bryn Athyn, Pa.

J. W. CUNLIFFE, *Chairman*.
C. M. GAYLEY,
G. L. KITTEEDGE,
JOHN M. MANLY,
H. A. TODD.

December, 1909.

On motion of Professor H. A. Smith the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

It is resolved by the Central Division of the Modern Language

Association of America at its fifteenth annual meeting that a vote of sincere thanks be offered to President McLean and the other officers of the State University of Iowa for the use of their buildings and for the numerous other delightful courtesies extended, and to the local committee and the members of the faculty who have by their charming hospitality set a high water mark in the entertainment of the Association; and that the secretary of the Central Division be requested to furnish a copy of this resolution to President McLean and to the chairman of the local committee.

Reading and discussion of papers:

11. "The Historical Basis of the Linguistic and Dialectal Divisions of the Spanish Peninsula." By Professor Winthrop Holt Chenery, of Washington University.

[This paper attempted to set forth some interesting facts concerning the peculiarities of speech in the Spanish Peninsula and to establish their historical basis.—*Fifteen minutes.*]

12. "Margaret Fuller, a Pupil of Goethe." By Dr. Frederick August Braun, of the State University of Iowa. [See Chapter II of *Margaret Fuller and Goethe*, by Frederick A. Brown (Holt, 1910).]

[A brief discussion concerning the debt Margaret Fuller owed to Goethe for the development of her remarkable personality and power, including a few testimonies with reference to her place in the creative period of American literature and her important relation to Emerson, James Freeman Clarke, and W. H. Channing.—*Fifteen minutes.*]

13. "Chronology and Metrical Tests." By Professor Edward P. Morton, of Indiana University.

[Metrical tests have proved so useful in supplementing other indications of the dates of Shakespeare's plays, that it is interesting to see how far purely metrical data help us to find the order of composition for the poems of Milton, Keats, Browning, Tennyson, and others. The metrical data for these poets, whose chronology is known in detail from other sources, show that in most cases the metrical details do correspond to the order of composition, but that

each poet is a special case, unlike the rest in some important respect. The validity of the tests for Shakespeare, therefore, is not affected by the success or failure of their application to the work of other men.—*Fifteen minutes.*]

This paper was discust by Miss J. Carpenter and the author.

14. "Fatalism as a Characteristic Feature in Conrad Ferdinand Meyer's Works." By Dr. Ernst Feise, of the University of Wisconsin. [See *Euphorion*, xvii, No. 1, pp. 111-43.]

[This paper attempted to show Meyer's attitude toward fatalism as it appears both in his life and in his works. Certain essential motives of fatalism recur constantly, especially the negation of the freedom of the will. His characters are colored by his own beliefs, in that all have fatalistic tendencies. Meyer's conception of fatalism is reflected in the form in which his works are cast, form and contents reinforcing each other. Finally the genesis and development of the idea of fatalism were pointed out in his narratives.—*Fifteen minutes.*]

This paper was discust by Dr. F. Bruns.

15. "The Symbolism of the Don Quixote Romance." By Professor Ralph Emerson Bassett, of the University of Kansas.

[An inquiry into the most plausible theory for explaining the significance of the narrative free from cryptographic subtleties. The sense of incompleteness left by the author's avowed purpose. Can this alone, or chiefly, account for a world classic of the highest order? The work considered as a national mirror in which general conditions of the author's time are reflected.—*Twenty minutes.*]

16. "Ibsen's Symbolism as Illustrated in *Master Builder* and *When We Dead Awake*." By Professor Paul H. Grumann, of the University of Nebraska. In the absence of the author this paper was read by Professor J. T. Hatfield.

[A study of Ibsen's characters with reference to his impressionistic tendencies. Particular attention was paid to *Hilda Wangel* and *Irene*. Incidental references to *Hedda Gabler* and *The Vikings*.—*Fifteen minutes*.]

17. "Shakespeare's Laugh." By Professor Harvey Carson Grumbine, of the University of Wooster. [See *Proceedings of the Ohio College Association* for 1909-10.]

[Of Shakespeare's forty-five, or fifty, fun-makers, three stand out as the first among professional wits, or clowns; three, as foremost among the non-professional wits; three, or four, as chief among the elementary humorous. Of Shakespeare's devices of mirth-making, —punning and volatility, the latter comprising euphuism, stichomythia, malapropism, affectation of accomplishment in the foreign languages, conundrums, scraps from popular ballads, airy philosophy, sheer nonsense, —some are common to all. The clowns are tickle-brains mainly, having little or no characterization. The non-professional wits are that and more, each having a distinctive character. The elementary humorous, being witless, tickle no brains, but diaphragms only. He laughs with the wits; and at the witless, though without scorn. His laugh has mercy for all and malice for none.—*Twenty minutes*.]

18. "Die Mennoniten von Kansas." By Professor Heinrich Otto Kruse, of the University of Kansas. [The substance of this paper appeared in *Der Herold* of Newton, Kas., in January, 1910.]

[Differences among Mennonites in racial characteristics, language, customs, and doctrines due to differences in origin, enforced migration, and deprivation of educated leaders. Migration to Kansas by congregations tended to preserve differences, but assimilation resulted from conferences, schools, intermarriages, and proximity to other Mennonites and Non-Mennonites. Assimilation most rapid in mixed congregations, where dialects slowly give way to High German and English.—*Fifteen minutes*.]

This paper was discust by Professor W. H. Carruth.

The Central Division adjourned at 12.45 p. m.